

TONY EVANS

LIFE ESSENTIALS

# Spiritual Growth

WORKBOOK





# MILESTONE **TWO**

YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST: THE KEY  
TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH

You have heard people say they are “born again,” but what does that really mean? Did you know that once you accepted Christ into your life, you were no longer the same person? In fact, you have received a brand new identity. Knowing your identity is critical to your spiritual growth. Second Corinthians 5:17 refers to those who are in Christ as new creatures; but you may say, “Sometimes I don’t feel or act like a new creature!”

This lesson begins our journey. You will explore who you are in Christ and the importance of your new nature to your spiritual growth.

## KEY VERSE

*"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."*

- Galatians 2:20

## BIBLE REFERENCES

Romans 6:1-14

1 Corinthians 2:16

2 Corinthians 5:17

1 Corinthians 1:30

Romans 12:1-2



# DAY ONE



1. Read chapters 2 and 3 in Life Essentials.
2. Read Key Verse Galatians 2:20.

Galatians 2:20

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and [a]the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”

According to Dr. Evans, why do sinners sin?

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At our conversion we were given “forgiveness of sin and the gift of eternal life.” What else were we given at that time?

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The text uses the term “old nature” (or sin nature, or old self). In your own words, describe this “old nature.”

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It also uses the term “new nature” (or new self). In your own words, describe this “new nature.”

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Have you noticed your “old nature” and “new nature” are in conflict? In what areas are you now experiencing conflict?

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What are some ways you can nurture your “new nature”?

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## DAY TWO



1. Begin to Memorize the Key Verse Galatians 2:20.
2. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-18.

### 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

"<sup>17</sup> Therefore if anyone is in Christ, [a]he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. <sup>18</sup> Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,"

What happens to a person who has become a new creature in Christ?

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Think about Dr. Evans's example in chapter 2 of Life Essentials of the caterpillar and butterfly. What has miraculously happened in your life as a result of being transformed into a new creature?

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## DAY THREE



1. Practice writing the Key Verse Galatians 2:20 to assist in memorization
2. Read Romans 6:1-14.

### Romans 6:1-14

<sup>1</sup> What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup> For if we have become [a]united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be [b]in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old [c]self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be [d]done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; <sup>7</sup> for he who has died is [e]freed from sin.

<sup>8</sup> Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, <sup>9</sup> knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, [f]is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. <sup>10</sup> For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. <sup>11</sup> Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, <sup>13</sup> and do not go on presenting [g]the members of your body to sin as [h]instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as [i]instruments of righteousness to God. <sup>14</sup> For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.,"

Describe "living in sin." (verse 2)

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How does Dr. Evans explain "spiritual death"? (page 47)

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How can your new life in Christ be compared to a marriage relationship?

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## DAY FOUR



1. Practice writing the Key Verse Galatians 2:20 to assist in memorization.
2. Read Romans 6:1-14.

### Romans 6:1-14

<sup>1</sup> What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup> For if we have become [a]united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be [b]in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old [c]self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be [d]done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; <sup>7</sup> for he who has died is [e]freed from sin.

<sup>8</sup> Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, <sup>9</sup> knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, [f]is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. <sup>10</sup> For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. <sup>11</sup> Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, <sup>13</sup> and do not go on presenting [g]the members of your body to sin as [h]instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as [i]instruments of righteousness to God. <sup>14</sup> For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.,"

Paul uses the word “know” in verses 3, 6, and 9. What does he want us to know?

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Why is it important that we “know” these things?

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What does it mean to be “dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus”? (verse 11)

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## Read Romans 12:1-2

Romans 12:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, [a]acceptable to God, which is your [b] spiritual service of worship. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this [c]world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may [d]prove what the will of God is, that which is good and [e]acceptable and perfect.”

How do you “present your body as a living and holy sacrifice each day”? (verse 1)

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What is wrong with making the statement, “I’m trying to live the Christian life”?

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What is the difference between being conformed and transformed?  
(verse 2)

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How are you being transformed?

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# DAY SIX



## REFLECTIONS ON THE JOURNEY

1. Recite or write the Key Verse Galatians 2:20 from memory.

What is the danger in relating what you do (your activities good or bad, such as drug abuse) to your identity?

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Based on what God's Word (Galatians 2:20) says about you, write down who you are now in one word or one sentence.

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Contact a member of the group (prayer partner or someone else you are comfortable with) and share with them a new concept you discovered and what this journey reinforced for you.

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What concerns did the journey raise for you?

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Now that you know who you are in Christ, what will you do differently?

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## TAKEAWAYS

- Who are you? You are a totally forgiven, fully accepted, absolutely loved child of God who is being transformed into the image of Christ.
- God has placed within us a new nature, which begins at conversion.



